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*Kagerou  
Bunko  
London  
2026*



01.

*Phantasmagoric folding screen with monsters battle scenes*

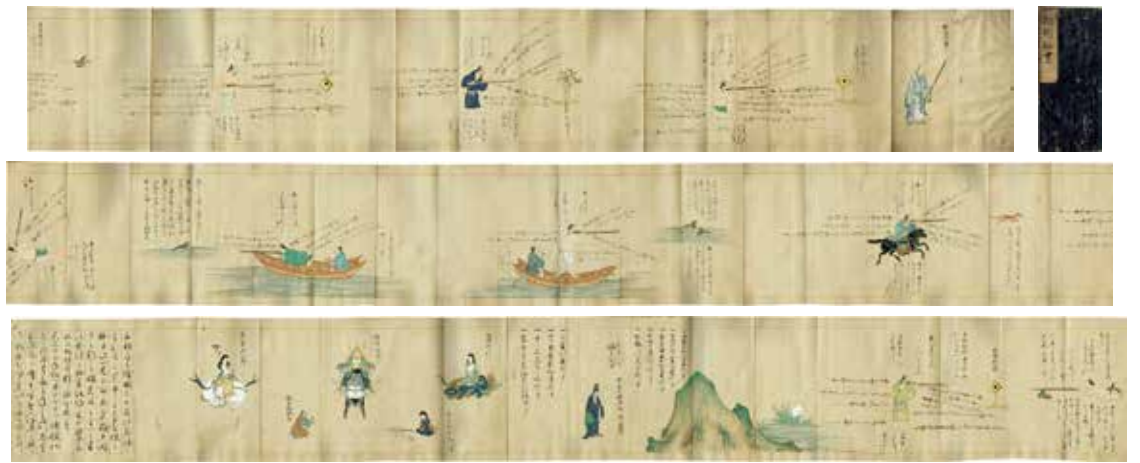
Unknown painter.

“**Taishokan (Taishokkan) byōbu**” [大職冠 屏風]

Hand painted, Ca. late 17th or early 18th century.

‘Taishokan’ is a phantasmagoric tale of the Muromachi (1333-1573) period about a gem embedded in the statue of Buddha, sent as a gift from the Japanese wife of the Chinese emperor to her homeland. When the Sea Dragon King stole the gem, the battle between humans and sea monsters started. The full story is long and varied, and is one of the popular subjects of traditional Japanese theater. The plates themselves were made for book illustrations, possibly in the 17th or early 18th century. They are mounted on a splendid miniature folding screen, ‘byōbu,’ which was made in the 19th century. The narrative pictures are detailed and epic. The painters used bright colours, such as gold, and preferred contrast in their compositions similar to ‘Nara-ehon’ (奈良絵本) style.

Japanese folding screen, 147.4x68.5 cm (68.5x37.2cm, when folding).  
Six plates pasted to the screen, roughly each 20x17 cm. Painted on gold freckled paper with Japanese colour inks made of mineral pigments (Iwa enogu), light chippings and rubbing on the plates. The back side of the screen has small bumps.  
Overall near fine condition. **US\$ 4,950 / £ 3,750**



*The secret of rifle handling, lavishly depicted*

02.

Unknown copier.

“**Inatomi ryū Hōjutsu hisho**” [稲富流 砲術秘書]

Manuscript, written in Ca. mid 17th century.

An Inatomi school of gunnery manuscript exceeding 9 meters in length, meticulously painted with vivid colour including gold and silver pigments, lavishly crafted in the early 17th century. The Inatomi school was founded by Sukenao Inatome (1552-1611), and the school quickly systematized its techniques after 1542-1544, when firearms were introduced to Japan from Portuguese ships. It was highly valued by Tokugawa Ieyasu (1543-1616) and became a major school of matchlock gun technology at the time. This manuscript is a book that conveys typical Inatomi-ryu techniques, and at the end of the book there is a postscript stating that Sasaki Shōyūjirō (佐々木少輔次郎, ?- after 1554) taught the secrets of firearms to Inatomi Naohide (unknown birth & death date), the grandfather of Inatomi Sukenao, in 1554. Text in Japanese.

One volume complete. Oblong folding album. Original paper wrappers with title slip.

24x10.5cm (when it's folded), 24x914cm when all pages spread.

Written with colour inks on paper. Scratching on the wrappers; faint, tiny wormholes on the contents.

Overall in near fine condition. Comes with a custom-made slipcase.

**US\$ 11,000 / £ 8,300**



*‘Mother’s enlightenment’, an earliest translation of British female author Jane Marcet*

03.

MARUSETTO, Mrs (Mrs. Marcet) [original author]: DOI, Kōka [translator];

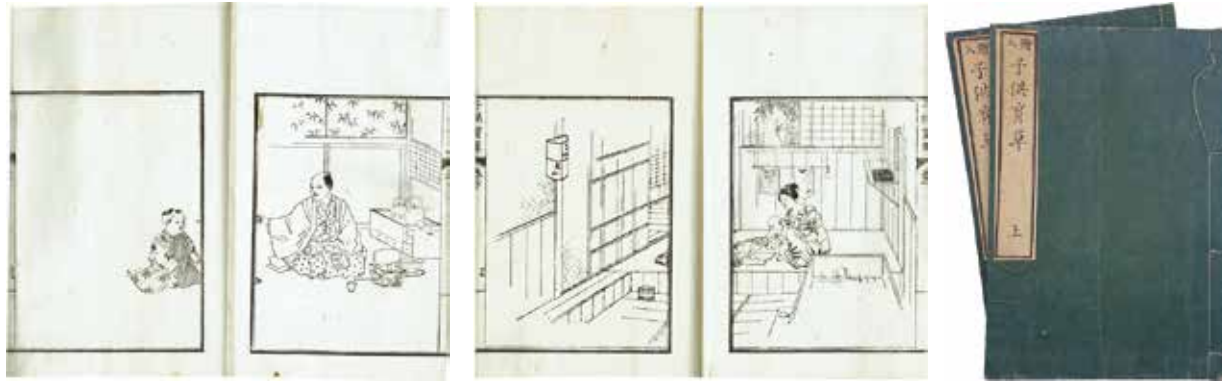
KAWANABE, Kyōsai [illustrator]

“**Haha no michibiki**” [母の導き]

Tōkyō : Izumiya Ichibei. Meiji 7 (1874). First edition.

The book contains an abridged translation of Mrs. Marset's book in its preface. This appears to be a translation from the works of the British female author, Jane Marset (1769-1858). The title is translated as ‘Mother's Guidance,’ and it is written in the form of a mother dictating ‘Physical geography’ to her child. The author, Kōka Doi (1847-1918), was a journalist and politician who translated many British political and historical books. Includes numerous beautiful illustrations by the genius artist Kyōsai Kawanabe (1831-1889). Reasonably rare, only two complete sets can be found in the databases; none outside Japan. Text in Japanese..

2 volumes complete. Original pale blue paper wrappers with original title slips. 22.8x15.5cm, 35 and 34 leaves. Woodblock printing, 8 double page colour, 4 double page B&W, and 1 single page B&W illustrations included. Chipping on the title slip, small damages at the binding thread, but still tight bindings. Contents are clean, overall in fine condition. **US\$ 5,500 / £ 4,050**



*One of the earliest Western childcare book in Japan*

04.

Efu Ecchi Gesseru (Frank Horace Getchell) [original author]; MURATA, Fumio [translator]  
**“Eiri, Kodomo sodategusa” [絵入 子供育草]**  
 Tōkyō : Inada Sahei. Meiji 7 (1874). First edition.

A quite scarce translation of one of the earliest Western childcare books in Japan. The author, Frank Horace Getchell (1834-1907), was an American medical doctor and educator. Translator Fumio Murata (1838-1891) was a writer who studied in England through the mediation of British merchant Thomas Blake Glover (1838-1911).  
 Rare first edition & complete set; no copies outside of Japan. Text in Japanese..

2 volumes complete. Original green paper wrappers with original title slips. 22.4x14.9cm, 45 and 42 leaves.  
 Woodblock printing, 10 double page and 2 single page B&W illustrations by unknown artists included.  
 Small damages at the binding thread, but still tight bindings. Contents are clean, overall in fine condition.  
**US\$ 1,650 / £ 1,250**



*Merchant of Venice, first Japanese translation*

05.

SHAKESPEARE, William [original author]; INOUE, Tsutomu [translator];  
 YOSHIMUNE, Utagawa II [illustrator]  
**“Seiyō chinsetsu, Jinniku shichiire saiban” [西洋珍説 人肉質入裁判]**  
 Tōkyō: Konkodō and Shōkodō. Meiji 16 (1883). First edition.

Tsutomu Inoue (1850-1928) learned English from Dutch diplomat Jan Donkel Curtius. His main job was working for the government as a translator, but he also translated English literature. The present book is "The Merchant of Venice" with Meiji-era illustrations, representing all the characters dressed in the costumes of the foreigners who lived in Japan at the end of the 19th century. The illustrator is probably Utagawa Yoshimune II (1863-1941), a pupil of Tsukioka Yoshitoshi (1839-1892), who was famous for illustrating translations of Western literature. Extremely rare. Furthermore, unusually for the standards of the time, Portia is depicted in illustrations dressed as a man. Text in Japanese.e.

1 volume complete. Original cardboard cover with cloth spine. 18.2x12.4cm. 76pp.  
 3 single-page monochrome illustrations, by copperplate printing. Cover stained, the binding is slightly loosening.  
 Occasional stains and rubbing on the contents. In very good condition..  
**US\$ 3,300 / £ 2,500**



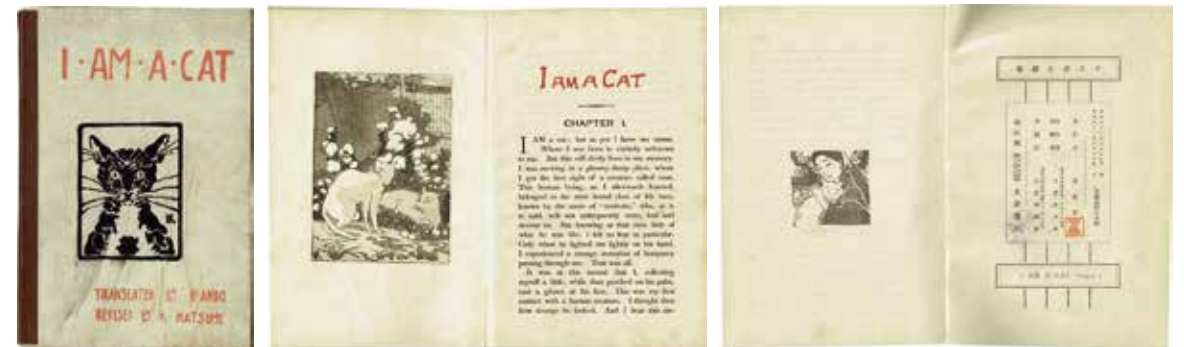
*A play based on Samuel Smiles' 'Self-Help'*

06.

SABASHI, Tomisaburo [written by]; SHINOZU, Hironobu [illustrated by]  
**“Sono irodori tōki no kōeki” [其粉色陶器交易]** and with **“Kutsu naoshi warabe kyōgaku” [鞋補童教学]**  
 Ōsaka, Kyōto, and Tōkyō: Itō Kyūbei and other publishers. Meiji 5 and 6 (1872 & 1873). Both first editions.

An extremely rare complete set of a unique book for a play based on the self-help theory of Samuel Smiles ('Self-Help', 1859), which was the first Western play to be announced in Japan. This particular book is a novel based on a kabuki performance of 'Zangirimono' that was held in Kyoto in 1872. The term Zangirimono was used to refer to Western drama in the late Meiji period, but in the early Meiji period, it denoted a fusion of traditional kabuki and western drama. The subtitles indicate that each section is based on volumes 2 and 10. This book demonstrates the profound influence that Smiles' "Self-Help" had on Japan, and is also historically very important as a precursor to Western theater in Japan. Text in Japanese..

Each 3 volumes complete, 6 books in total. Original paper wrappers with title slips. 21.7x15.3cm, 17, 18 and 17 leaves, 16, 14 and 14 leaves. Woodblock printing, including 4 colour double page plates, 2 colour single page plates and 11 B&W double page plates. Minor rubbings on the wrappers, occasional foxing on the contents. Overall in near fine condition.  
**US\$ 7,700 / £ 5,750**



*Earliest English translation of the most famous cat book in Japan*

07.

ANDŌ, Kan'ichi [translated by]; NATSUME, Sōseki [original author and revised by];  
 HASHIGUCHI, Goyō [illustration]  
**“I am a cat, chapter one (and chapter two)” [吾輩は猫である]**  
 Tōkyō; Ōkura shoten (Y. OKURA & Co.). Meiji 41 (1906). First English edition.

Extremely rare, this is the earliest English translation of Natsume Soseki's classic of modern Japanese fiction, which is certainly the most famous modern book title in Japan. Just like the original, the cover features two illustrations by Goyo Hashiguchi, and two more illustrations are included within the text. It is also valuable because Soseki himself proofread it, and very few copies of this first edition still exist. A second volume, starting from chapter 3, was planned but was never published. Text in English..

1 volume complete. Original card board cover. 18.4x12.5cm, 3+[2]+133pp. Stains on the front cover, spine repaired with brown cloth. Tiny private ex-owner's stamp on the flyleaf. Faint foxing on the contents. Otherwise in near fine condition.  
**US\$ 4,400 / £ 3,300**



*Beardsley effect on Japanese women's magazine*  
08.

“Fujin gurafu June, Volume 1, issue 2”  
[婦人グラフィック 六月號 第一卷第二號]

Tōkyō; Kokusai Jōhōsha. Tisho 13 (1924).

The second issue of an early Japanese women's fashion and cultural magazine. This magazine 'Fujin Gurafu (The Ladies' Graphic)' was influenced by the French magazine 'Art-Goût Beauté (A. G. B.)', and perhaps more heavily influenced by British upper-class culture. This second issue of the magazine features a colour woodblock print of Aubrey Beardsley's illustration, which is adapted from the cover illustration of 'The Mirror of Music, 1896' on the cover, as well as a woodblock print by Takehisa Yumeji, who would later become a regular illustrator for the magazine. Text in Japanese.

1 volume. Original paper board with colour block plate pasted in. 32.6x24.7cm, 20 leaves plus 16pp. Four punching holes at the spine. Faint creasings on the page edges. Minor mis-printing places on the few pages. Overall in near fine condition.

US\$ 1,100 / £ 830



*Beardsley effect Japanese hanging scroll*  
09.

Unknown painter.

BEARDSLEY, Aubrey [original drawing by]  
“Mount Fuji” [富士山]

Hand painted scroll, Ca.1920s-1930s.

A painting titled 'Mount Fuji' adapted from a famous drawing from Aubrey Beardsley. The original drawing title is 'The Woman in the Moon' from Oscar Wilde's Salome. The man and woman are completely copied from the original, then the background is Mount Fuji and surrounding woods; from the woods few demons are loitering.

A bit creepy, but an enchanting motif.

The painter is completely unknown, but the work clearly demonstrates the influence of Beardsley's paintings on Japan.

1 hanging scroll. Original brown cloth binding with wooden stem. Painted with Japanese traditional pigments on silk. Scroll size 196x36cm, image size 106x32.3cm. Stains and some creasings. Comes with a wooden case.

US\$ 1,650 / £ 1,250



*Binyon, British poet in Japan*

10.

“A poem by Laurence Binyon” [美仁恩 英詩]

Hand written manuscript, dated 8th December 1929.

A charming hanging scroll written by a prominent British poet Laurence Binyon (1869 -1943).The poem was written by Binyon and his wife Cicely during their visit to Japan in 1929 and their stay in Sendai. It is mounted on a very beautiful Japanese textile, and the original wooden box is inscribed with the title and creation date in Binyon's own handwriting.

*'Far beneath the Western sky I shall dream and I shall sigh To see in Sendai once again Dance of Tortoise and of Crane'*

1 hanging scroll. Original decorated brocade binding with bull horn stem. Written in Japanese black ink by brush on paper. Scroll size 117x51.3cm, image size 14x19cm. Faint stains on the bonding cloth. Comes with a wooden case.

US\$ 2,750 / £ 2,050



*Album of Famous Mountains of France, Italy, and Scotland*  
11.

TAKASHIMA, Tokuzō (Hokkai) [illustrated by].

“Ōshu Sansui Kishō” [欧州山水奇勝]

Tōkyō : Kinkōdō, Meiji 26 [1893]. First edition, first printing.

A first edition of this delightful set of colour woodblock-printed books on the famous mountains of Europe. The artist, Takashima Hokkai (1850-1931), was a 'Japanese-style' (nihonga) painter who heavily influenced the Nancy School of Art Nouveau. Also a botanist, Hokkai studied overseas at the French National School of Forestry. This set is Hokkai's study of the mountainous regions of Scotland, Italy, and France that he saw between 1884-88 when he was a student.

Hokkai's illustrations were published in two formats at the same time:

a one-volume format and a two-volume format. This is the two-volume format, with volume one dedicated to France and volume two dedicated to Italy and Scotland. The two books include lightly coloured woodblock prints of famous mountains like Mont Blanc, the Pyrenees, Vesuvius, Glen Coe, Ben Lomond, the Five Sisters, and others. A set of beautiful albums of foreign mountains as seen through the eyes of a Meiji period Japanese artist. Text in Japanese.

2 volumes complete. Original cloth cover with original title slips. Oblong accordion-style folding album. 31, 27 leaves. 24.8 x 18.3 cm. Colour woodblock printing, including 22 plates in France, 7 plates in Italy, and 11 plates in Scotland. Faint foxing at the contents, otherwise in fine condition. Comes with an original paper envelope.

US\$ 3,300 / £ 2,500





*The Japanese worldview in the 18th century*

12.

SHIBA, Kōkan [author]

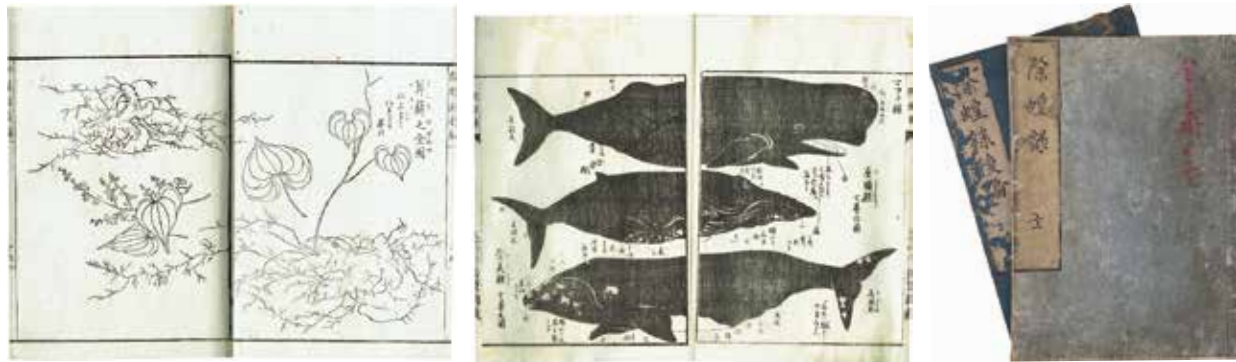
“Chikyū zenzu ryakusetsu (Bankoku ryakusetsu)” [地球全図略説 (万国略説)]

Unknown publisher, later enlarged edition after Kansei 5 (1793).

A book that clearly reflects the worldview of Japanese people in the 18th and early 19th centuries. The author, Kōkan Shiba (1747-1818), was a prominent painter, cartographer and scholar of Western learning. The first edition was published as an appendix to a world map he created, and this later edition is a book with significantly expanded content and numerous illustrations. An overview of geography, astronomy, and the customs of each city. Text in Japanese.

3 volumes complete. Original paper wrappers with title slips. 25.4x17.3cm, 16, 10 and 18 leaves. Minor foxing on the wrappers, wormholes repaired at volume two and third, but mostly at the margins. Overall in very good condition.

US\$ 1,320 / £ 1,000



*Whaling and modern agriculture*

13.

ŌKURA, Nagatsune [author]

“Jokōroku” [除蝗録] and with “Jokōroku kōhen” [除蝗録 後編]

Edo, Ōsaka, and Kyōto; Suharaya Shinbei and other publishers. Bunsei 9 (1826) and Kōka 3 (1846).

A very famous agricultural book, this book details methods for controlling pests.

The first volume explains how to use whale oil for pest control, while subsequent volumes discuss using vegetable oils and other matters. The author, Nagatsune Ōkura (1768-1861?), was an agricultural scholar who was active in the late Edo period. Includes numerous illustrations.

An important book on modern agriculture that explains whaling in Japan.

Reasonably rare with the second part. Text in Japanese..

2 part 2 books complete. Original paper wrappers with title slip. 22.4x16cm and 21.9x14.8cm, 37 and 35 leaves. B&W woodblock printing. Stains and rubbings on the wrappers.

Occasional stains at the first part, mostly at the margins. Overall in near fine condition.

US\$ 1,650 / £ 1,250



*The Book of Documents Printed in Korea with illustrations*

14.

Cai, Shen [蔡沈]

“Shu ji zhuan” [書集傳]

Korea; Publisher unknown, Ca.15-16th century.

An exceptionally rare illustrated section of the annotated edition of the Book of Documents (Shūjing). The text and forward was written by Cai Shen (1167-1230), with the first edition published in 1209.

The present copy, however, was published in the Korean peninsula, likely around the 15th to 16th century.

The book consists of two parts: ‘書傳大全’ (Shu zhuan da quan), printed using woodblock technology and featuring illustrations, and ‘Shu ji zhuan’ (書集傳), possibly printed using movable type.

This book is not only a rare example of a text produced using Korean movable type, but also showcases the artistry of Korean woodblock-printed illustrations. Text in Chinese.

The first volume only, possibly one of 10 volumes. Paper wrappers. 33x20.4cm. 106 ll. (2 leaves of preface plus “書傳大全圖,” which is 28 leaves with 37 illustrations, “書傳大全卷一,” 75 leaves with no illustrations.)

Presumably movable type and woodblock printing combined. Pages worn and soiled. Corners repaired, with textual reconstruction. Previous owner’s black ink inscriptions, notes and reading marks in Korean (hangul). Private ownership’ red stamp on the first page washed; another two are still visible. Fūkuro toji binding.

Korean type, worn. Hand written title on the front cover. Very good condition considering its age. US\$ 7,150 / £ 5,400



*Beautifully Printed Woodblocks of Antique Korean Porcelains*

15.

SAWADA, Kundō (Seiichirō) [editor, author]

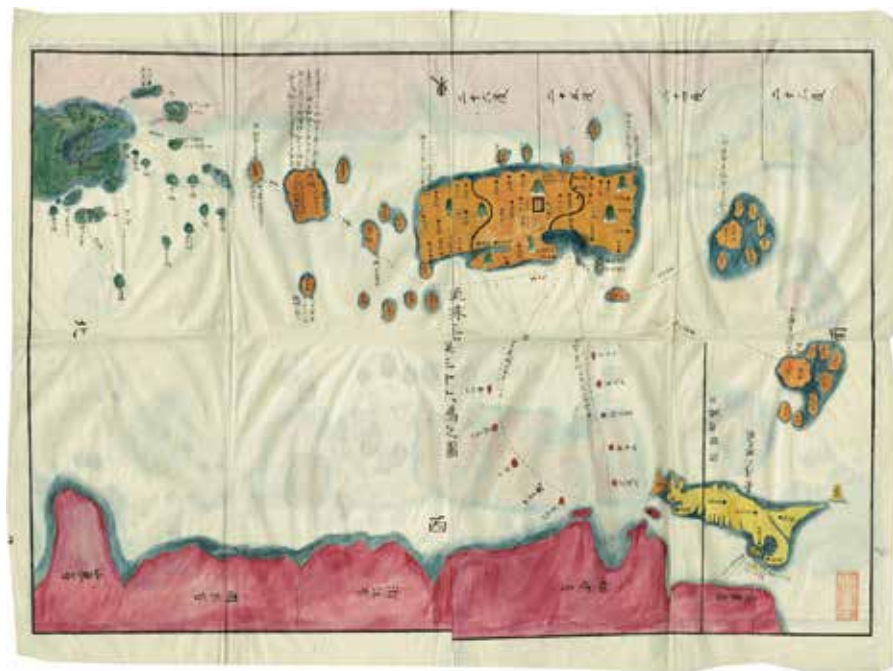
“Chōsen kotōjiki shū” [朝鮮古陶磁器集]

Kyōto: Unsōdō. Taishō 3 (1914), First edition.

An extraordinary example of early Japanese antiquarianism. The Mingei movement was an “arts and crafts” inspired network of folk art collectors and artisans during the late Meiji and early Taisho eras. The main purpose of their activities was preserving the folk art and culture of Japan and neighboring lands; they espoused ideals of simplicity and functional beauty. The present publication was based on field studies; it introduces the beauty of Korean porcelain. Along with presenting the best examples of porcelain objects found at the time, the book is an example of high-end woodblock printing technique. Thirty plates depict items dated from the 1st-century BC to the 10th century AD. The woodblock prints of grey Korean porcelain is particularly exquisite; depicting it gave printmakers a chance to show off their skills in subtle shades of grey. Text in Japanese.

1 volume complete. Original oblong folding album, damages and loss at the back cover. Contents are fine; overall very good to near fine condition. 24.8x17.8cm, 30 leaves.

US\$ 1,980 / £ 1,500



*Complete Map of the Ryukyu Kingdom*

16.

HAYASHI, Shihei [original author]

“Ryūkyū sansho narabi-ni sanjūroku tō no zu” [琉球三省并三十六嶋之図]

Manuscript, unknown copier, copied at Ca. late 18th or early 19th century.

This is a copied map of the ‘Complete Map of the Ryukyu Kingdom (琉球国全図)’ an appendix to Hayashi Shihei’s ‘Sangoku tsūran zusetsu (三国通覧図説)’ published in 1786. The book was quickly taken out of print due to government pressure, and thereafter spread only as a manuscript.

The size is large-format, just like the original, and is a carefully drawn, high-quality manuscript.

This map, centered on the Ryukyu Islands, also depicts sea routes to Kagoshima, Taiwan, and the coast of mainland China, providing a clear picture of the geopolitical perspective of the time. Text in Japanese..

1 sheet of map. 57.5x75.8cm, drawn in colour inks on Washi paper. Occasional creasing marks, edges slightly rubbed; one ex-owner’s stamp erased, quite tiny wormholes to limited parts. Overall in near fine condition.

US\$ 1,980 / £ 1,500



*Okinawa's lost landscapes*

17.

SERIZAWA, Keisuke

“Okinawa fūbutsu” (沖縄風物)

Tokyo: privately printed by the artist himself. Shōwa 23 (1948), first edition, limited to 150 copies, not for sale to the public..

A charming book documenting the manners and customs of Okinawa and Kumejima by Keisuke Serizawa (1895-1984), one of the main artists of the Japanese Mingei movement (folk & crafts art movement) that began in the 1920s. A hand-printed stencil-dyed picture book by Serizawa himself, folding album with panoramic views of street sellers, shops, temples and other scenic places which have disappeared nowadays. A superb artist book and also a precious record of Okinawa. Text in Japanese.

1 volume complete. Original hand made paper board cover with original title slip. Colour stencil printing.

Oblong folding album, 21x26.9cm, 11 leaves. Very minor stains on the contents, otherwise in near fine condition.

Comes with two original paper slipcasses and a custom made cloth slipcasse.

US\$ 2,200 / £ 1,650



*Children's toys of Ryūkyū, Okianawa*

18.

OZAKI, Seiji [author and illustrator]

“Ryukyu gangu zufu”

[琉球玩具図譜]

Ōsaka; Kasahara shōni hokenjo :

Shōwa 11 (1936), first edition.



An extremely rare and valuable book about the traditional toys of Ryukyu (Okinawa). The author, Seiji Ozaki (1893-1979) was a medical doctor, woodblock printmaker, and researcher of local folk toys in Kobe. The author traveled to Okinawa in 1932 and dedicated himself to collecting local folk toys, which he compiled into 55 beautiful woodblock prints. Since there is very little documentation on children's toys from Okinawa before WWII, and Ozaki's collection was dispersed after the war, this book is extremely valuable. Only three libraries, including those in Japan, possess this book. Text in Japanese.

1 volume complete. 58 paper folder (29x19cm) complete. 3 leafs consisting of a list of contents, foreword, and overview page, plus 55 pairs of colour woodblock printing plates and description sheets complete. Minor foxing on the plates. Original paper board slipcasse worn. Overall in very good condition..

US\$ 8,800 / £ 6,600



*Compendium of Japanese traditional toys*

19.

KAWASAKI, Kyosen [author and illustrator].

“Kyosen omochae shū” [巨泉おもちゃ絵集]

Ōsaka; Omochae hangakai. Taishō 8 (1919), first edition.

This book can be considered the culmination of the life's work of Kysen Kawasaki (1877-1942), who dedicated his life to collecting and researching Japanese folk toys. This book features 240 types of folk toys from all over Japan, including Taiwan and Ryukyu, illustrated with beautiful woodblock prints. This is a valuable material from both an artistic and cultural anthropological perspective. Text in Japanese.

20 volumes complete, bound as five books. Paper wrappers with title slip. 35.3x24.9cm, 17, 14, 15, 15 and 11 leaves. Colour woodblock printing plates, letterpress printed text. Foxing and stains on the wrappers, water stains at the flyleaf of each book, faint foxing on the contents, otherwise in near fine condition.

Comes with a slipcasse.

US\$ 3,300 / £ 2,500



20. *A picturebook of Don Quixote, the stunning work of Keisuke Serizawa*  
 SERIZAWA, Keisuke [artist]; CERVANTES, Miguel de [original author], JUGAKU, Bunshō [after words]  
 “Shinpan Ehon Don Kihōte” [新版 絵本どんきほて]  
 Tōkyō; Gohachi. 1975, second and new edition, limited to 185 copies of artist's proof.

A new and enlarged edition of the legendary book, Japanese ‘Don Quixote.’  
 The first edition was published 1936; this edition is a larger format and luxury bound.  
 The author Keisuke Serizawa (1895-1984) was Japan's most highly regarded stencil dyeing artist.  
 This is his first book and a legendary work which is a masterpiece, a Japanese adaptation of the world's most famous chivalric romance, "Don Quixote." This fascinating book was published by a request of American book collector in Boston, Carl Keller (1872-1955) to his Japanese friend Bunshō Jugaku (1900-1992) who was a prominent scholar of English literature. Jugaku Bunsho commissioned Keisuke Serizawa to produce the illustrations, a young and up-and-coming artist at the time, and Jugaku himself published it. The story of Don Quixote is set in medieval Japan and adapted into a story about Japanese samurai. A beautiful picture book of 31 multi-coloured stencil prints. Text in Japanese.

1 volume plus 1 supplement booklet complete. Original purple cloth wrapper with decorated title slip.  
 Colour stencil-dyeing printing on Japanese washi paper. 31 plates, signed by the artist. 40.5x36cm, 35 leaves.  
 Comes with an original lacquer case, cardboard case and shipping card board case. In fine condition. **US\$ 4,400 / £ 3,300**



21. *A study about Japanese primitive fabrics with actual samples*  
 OKAMURA, Kichiemon [author]  
 “Soko no sho” [粗栲の書]  
 Tōkyō; Ishōseikatsu kenkyū kai. Shōwa 45 (1970). First edition, limited 100 of number 82.

A research book on Kichiemon Okamura (1916-2002), a textile artist who was involved in the ‘Mingei’ (folk art) movement for many years. This book explains the origins and development of Japanese textiles, along with actual fabric examples. This collection includes ancient dyeing and weaving styles from all over Japan, including fabrics from remote areas such as the Ainu cultural area and the Ryukyu Islands. One of the most scarce books among Okamura's research works. Text in Japanese..

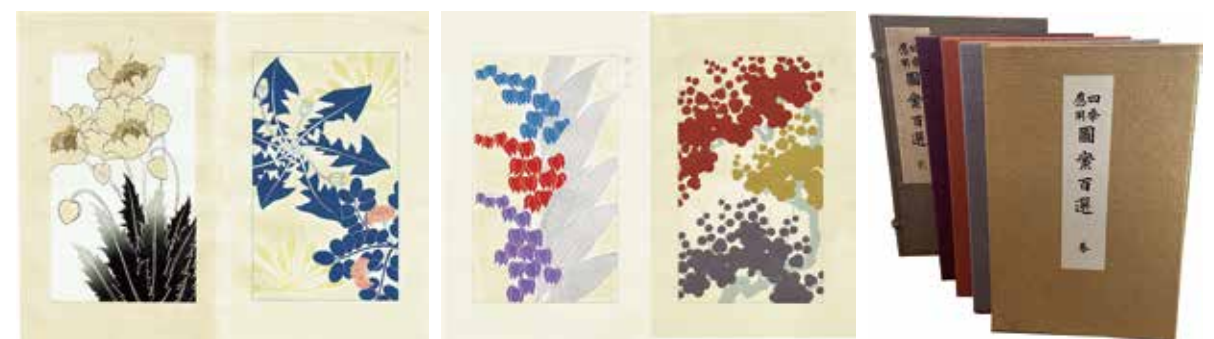
3 volumes complete. Hard cover cloth binding. Text part 29.8x20.8cm, 211pp. Two volumes of plates part, 30x23cm, 69 actual fabric samples pasted on. Faint foxing on the contents. Otherwise in fine condition. Comes with original slipcase and shipping card board case. **US\$ 3,300 / £ 2,500**



22. *Bookmark collection, book lover's fever*  
 “A collection of bookmarks” [しおりのつどひ]  
 Handmade scrap albums, made in 1930s.

A massive collection of unique design bookmarks. More than 500 pieces of bookmarks gathered in four albums. In Japan, the 1930s saw a very enthusiastic boom in bookmark collecting, and a vast variety of bookmarks were manufactured. There were particularly large bookmark exchange events in Osaka and Kobe, and many of these collections are from the Kansai region. These bookmarks, featuring numerous color woodblock prints and ingeniously designed designs, are wonderful resources that represent the culture surrounding books of that era.

4 folding albums, approximately 21x19cm each. 582 individual bookmarks pasted into the album.  
 Faint stains on the bookmarks, but mostly in fine condition. **US\$ 3,850 / £ 2,880**



23. *100 seasonable kimono flower pattern*  
 KAWARASAKI, Kōdō [artist]  
 “Shikiōyō Zuan hyakudai” [四季応用 図案百題]  
 Kyōto; Uchida bijutsu shoshi. Showa 7-8 (1932-1933), first edition.

Kōdō (or Shōdō) Kawarasaki (1899-1973) was a Kyoto-based textile designer and kimono pattern designer who was active in the early Showa period. This book features seasonal flower patterns for kimono that blend Showa-era modernism with traditional designs, presented in beautiful woodblock prints that make extensive use of the embossing printing technique. Text in Japanese.

4 volumes complete. Original cloth cover with title slip. Oblong accordion-style folding album. Includes 100 colour woodblock printing plates. 35x22.8cm, each 15 leaves. Faint foxing on the contents, otherwise clean, in near fine condition. Comes with an original slipcase. **US\$ 2,750 / £ 2,050**



*New kimono design with extraordinary beautiful woodblock printing*

24.  
HISATOMI, Jun and YOSHIDA, Gyokujō [artist].  
“Shikiōyō Zuan hyakudai” [新興小袖振]  
Kyōto; Kondō happodō. Shōwa 8 (1933), first edition.  
A collection of exquisitely beautiful woodblock-printed patterns for kosode (short-sleeved kimono) clothing. “Kosode” is a historical garment that formed the basis of modern kimonos. Two leading kimono designers of the time developed modern designs. The publishing company Kondō happodō boasted the highest level of woodblock printing technology at the time. A complete set is reasonably rare. Text in Japanese.  
5 volumes complete. Original paper cover with title slip. Oblong accordion-style folding album.  
Includes 50 colour woodblock printing plates. 35.7x25.9cm, 12, 11, 11, 11 and 11 leaves. Faint foxing on the first volume cover.  
Otherwise clean, fine copy. **US\$ 4,400 / £ 3,300**



*Patterns of hobbies, 'Showa modern' design*

25.  
MATSUMURA, Suihō [artist].  
“Shumi no monyō” [趣味の文様]  
Kyōto; Uchida bijutsu shoshi. Shōwa 7-8 (1932-1933).  
The title can be translated as ‘Patterns of hobbies.’ This collection features 150 designs that modernize classic and traditional Japanese patterns. Designer Suiho Matsumura was a Kyoto Yuzen dyeing designer who was active from the late Taisho period to the early Showa period, who was active in a wide range of fields, including kimonos, envelopes, and small gift envelopes. Text in Japanese.  
3 volumes complete. Original cloth cover with title slip. Oblong accordion-style folding album.  
Includes 150 colour woodblock printing plates. 35.1x24.1cm, each 15 leaves.  
Small damage at the hinge of the second volume, otherwise clean copy, in fine condition.  
Comes with an original slipcase.. **US\$ 1,980 / £ 21,500**



*Quirky female medical doctor treats unique disease*

26.  
UTAGAWA, Kuniyosi [artist]  
“Kitai na meii nanbyō ryōji” [きたいな名医難病療治]  
Edo; Enshū-ya Hikobei. Circa, Kaei 2-3 (1849-1850).  
One of the masterpieces of the genius painter, Kuniyoshi Utawaga (1798-1861). This prints depicts the eccentric female doctor "Kogarashi" and her apprentices as they miraculously treat common ailments of the time, such as pockmarks, lameness, gonorrhoea, tooth decay, and tantrums. Fascinating art work that depicts the worries and trends of people at the time, which is valuable both artistically and in terms of understanding medical history. Text in Japanese.  
Triptych of Nishiki-e print complete. Each 36.1x25.4cm Colour woodblock printing.  
Margins trimmed, otherwise in near fine condition. **US\$ 3,850 / £ 2,880**



*Compendium of beautiful girls at late Edo period*



27.  
“Album of beautiful women in ukiyo-e prints” [大判錦絵 美人画帖]

Several publishers, printed in 1840s-1860s.  
An album containing 6 ukiyo-e prints of beautiful women.  
By Eizan Kikukawa (菊川英山, 1787-1867) ‘A girl holding a doll,’ Eisen Keisai (溪斎英泉, 1791-1848) ‘Woman with an Umbrella,’ Eisen Keisai ‘Woman looking at a hand mirror,’ Yoshitora Utawaga (歌川芳虎, 1836-1880) ‘Oiran (1859),’ Kunisada Utawaga (歌川国貞, 1786-1865), ‘Oiran’ and Eisen Keisai ‘Town girl.’ All of these are ukiyo-e prints, consisting of two vertical panels, known as kakemono-e (掛物絵), and are valuable both artistically and historically, due to their depictions of hairstyles, clothing, and material culture.  
1 folding album. Original green silk cover. Oblong accordion-style album. The corner of the cover is damaged. The album size is 30.4x41.5cm, 6 panels. Each print is approximately 73x25cm.  
Some of the prints have foxing and rubbing, otherwise in very good condition.. **US\$ 2,750 / £ 2,050**



*Sumo wrestler defeats a giant from the West*  
**28.**  
 TSUKIOKA, Yoshifuji [painter]; KANAGAKI, Robun [text by]  
 “Yokohama homare no shōbu duke” [横浜誉勝負附]  
 Edo; Shitaya, Aiboku. Bunkyo 1 (1861), first edition.

A ukiyo-e woodblock print depicting a bizarre incident in Yokohama, created by Robun Kanagaki (1829-1894), a pioneering modern author who was active during the late Edo and Meiji periods. The image depicts a man named ‘Africa Atto’, who was over 2 meters tall, from an island that was a French colony; having never lost a wrestling match in the West, he came to Japan to compete, only to be immediately defeated by a sumo wrestler. The painter Yoshifuji Utagawa (1828-1887) was a preeminent Ukiyo-e artist who excelled at depicting Western objects. Text in Japanese.

1 sheet of Nishiki-e print complete. 36x25.5cm  
 Colour woodblock printing. Margin stained, small chipping on the right below corner, otherwise in near fine condition.  
**US\$ 1,650 / £ 1,250**

*Five heads with ten bodies, explaining pregnancy*  
**29.**

UTAGAWA, Kunitoshi [painter]  
 “Komochi onna natsu no tawamure, ichimeigotō juttai no zu”  
 [妊婦炎暑戯一名五頭十体の図]  
 Tōkyō; Hasegawa Sonokichi. Meiji 14 (1881), first edition.

A scarce Ukiyo-e woodblock print, depicting the 10-month transformation of a pregnant woman and her fetus, using trick art techniques. Five women's bodies overlap to depict the ten stages of fetal development. Some prints with similar designs were published around the same time, however this set is rare. Text in Japanese.



2 sheets of Nishiki-e print complete. 35.5x23.4cm, Colour woodblock printing.  
 Damaged and repaired at the top edges. Occasional foxing, overall in very good condition. **US\$ 1,100 / £ 830**

*Banned print, eight naked women vying for one man*  
**30.**

IZAWA, Kikutarō [artist & publisher]  
 “Musuko hitori ni yome hachi nin”  
 [息子一人に嫁八人]  
 Tōkyō; Izawa Kikutarō. Meiji 16 (1883).

An extremely rare ukiyo-e print depicting eight women vying for the affections of one man. It can be confirmed that the author Kikutarō Izawa, an artist and publisher, published woodblock prints related to childbirth and pregnancy around the same time, but it is not possible to find any collection that possesses this particular print. The May 10, 1883 issue of the ‘Yomiuri Shimbum’ news paper reveals that this print was banned by the government for being obscene. Text in Japanese.



2 sheets of Nishiki-e print complete. 36.8x25.2cm, Colour woodblock printing.  
 Small ink stain at the edge of the right sheet; tiny damage repaired at the corner of the left sheet.  
 Overall in near fine condition. **US\$ 1,980 / £ 1,500**

*Brutal ‘Gaijin,’ beware of foreigners*

**31.**  
 TSUKIOKA, Yoshitoshi [painter]  
 “Yubin Hōchi shinbun (The Yubin Hōchi Newspaper Issue 571)”  
 [郵便報知新聞 第五百七十一号]  
 Tōkyō; Kinshō-dō. Meiji 8 (1875), first edition.

A print from a daily newspaper in the style of ukiyo-e, which was published for a short period from 1872 until around 1881. A prominent artist, Yoshitoshi Tsukioka (1839-1892) became famous for providing numerous illustrations for this newspaper. Among them, there was a print that dealt with a very unusual incident. A foreigner entered a brothel in Nagasaki, refused to pay, and assaulted a woman, dropping his watch in the process. He later complained to the consulate that the woman had stolen his watch. The news reports warn people to be wary of wealthy-looking foreigners, an issue that was probably rare. Text in Japanese.

1 sheet of Nishiki-e print complete. 35.3x23.5cm Colour woodblock printing.  
 Margin trimmed, faint creasing on the center, otherwise in near fine condition.  
**US\$ 1,100 / £ 830**



*Female cross dresser arrested!*  
**32.**

KOBAYASHI, Eitaku [painter]; TENTENDŌ, Dondon [text by].  
 “Tōkyō nichi nichi shinbun (The Tōkyō nichi nichi Newspaper Issue 498)”  
 [各種新聞図解の内 東京日々新聞 第四百九拾八号]  
 Tōkyō; Dai jūni (Gusokuya). Meiji 8 (1875), first edition.

A quite unusual article that reports on a case where a gentleman's mistress borrowed his clothes and was reprimanded by an official while walking down the street. These kinds of prints are from a daily newspaper in the style of ukiyo-e, which was published for a short period from 1872 until around 1881. Illustrator Eitaku Kobayashi (1843-1890) was an artist who excelled at illustrations and had close ties with Yoshitoshi and Kyōsai. The text is by Ransen Takabatake (高畠藍泉, 1838-1885), known as ‘the first literary novelist of the Meiji era.’ A very small number of issues survived in the database. Text in Japanese..



1 sheet of Nishiki-e print complete. 35.2x23.9cm Colour woodblock printing.  
 Damaged and repaired at the top edge corner. Faint stains on the edges, otherwise in near fine condition. **US\$ 1,650 / £ 1,250**

*A drunken ‘Geisha’ girl explodes with her frustrations*

**33.**  
 KOBAYASHI, Kiyochika [painter];  
 KOISHIKAWA, Kibō [text by]  
 “Kage de hara wo tatsu sake guse” [陰で腹をたつ酒癖]  
 Tōkyō; Ogawa Takei. Meiji 18 (1885), first edition.

A quite scarce woodblock print from a series of 12 prints about drunkenness by Kiyochika Kobayashi (1847-1915), a master of humorous paintings in the Meiji era. It depicts a drunken geisha baring her chest and raging to vent her pent-up frustrations. Perhaps due to its provocative imagery for the time, this is one of the few surviving copies. Text in Japanese.

1 sheet of Nishiki-e print. 36.7x24.3cm Colour woodblock printing.  
 Faint foxing on the margins, otherwise in fine condition.  
**US\$ 1,100 / £ 830**



*Blond lady with Japanese children*

34.  
MATSUMOTO, Senji [painter]  
“Senji Matsumoto woodblock print”  
[松本洗耳 木版画]  
Unknown publisher, Ca. 1890s-1900s.

A very rare print, featuring a bold composition that strongly shows the influence of Western painting. Senji Matsumoto (1869-1906) was a painter of the Meiji era who illustrated numerous books. This print is thought to have been created as an illustration for a book as ‘Kuchi-e (口絵), but it lacks the usual creasing marks found in plates, and its origin is unknown. The same print could only be found at the National Library of Australia. The composition and use of color foreshadow the emergence of ‘Shin-hanga’ (new prints) in the next period.

1 sheet of Nishiki-e print. 32.1x22.6cm Colour woodblock printing. In near fine condition.

US\$ 2,750 / £ 2,050



*‘Sōsaku hanga,’*  
10 Japanese modern woodblock prints lavishly collected.

35.  
MICHENER, James [author].  
“The Modern Japanese Print, an Appreciation” [創作版画]  
Rutland, VT and Tokyo; Charles E. Tuttle Company. 1962,  
first edition, limited to 475 copies, numbered 28.

A massive book introducing modern Japanese woodblock prints. The Japanese subtitle is ‘Sōsaku hanga’ which can be translated as “Creative Printmaking.” This collection features beautiful colour woodblock prints by 10 artists who represented the creative printmaking of the time. The artists are Hiratsuka Un’ichi, Maekawa Sempan, Mori Yoshitoshi, Watanabe Sadao, Kinoshita Tomio, Shima Tamami, Azechi Umetaro, Iwami Reika, Yoshida Masaji, and Maki Haku. All prints are signed by the artist and numbered. Text in English.

1 volume complete. Hard cover tricolour cloth binding. 45x39cm, 55pp. Including ten woodblock printed plates. The original wooden slipcase has small damage and stains. Faint foxing on the page edges and margins. Otherwise clean copy, in near fine condition.

US\$ 4,950 / £ 3,750



*Mysterious dance of heron maiden*

36.  
TANIGUCHI, Kōkyō [artist]  
“Shirasagi no sei (Sagi musume)”  
[白鷺の精 (鷺娘)]  
Unknown printer, printed Ca. 1910s-1920s.

Kōkyō Taniguchi (谷口香嶠, 1864-1915) was a painter who specialized in historical paintings and textile design during the Meiji and Taisho periods, and this is one of his most highly regarded print works. The painting's subject, ‘Sagi Musume’ (Heron Maiden or spirit of white heron), is a Japanese dance performance. It depicts a heron transforming into a young girl and dancing mysteriously.

1 printed sheet, complete. 42.3x27.2cm (paper size), 38.7x24.8 (image size). Faint foxing, otherwise in near fine condition.  
US\$ 3,850 / £ 2,880

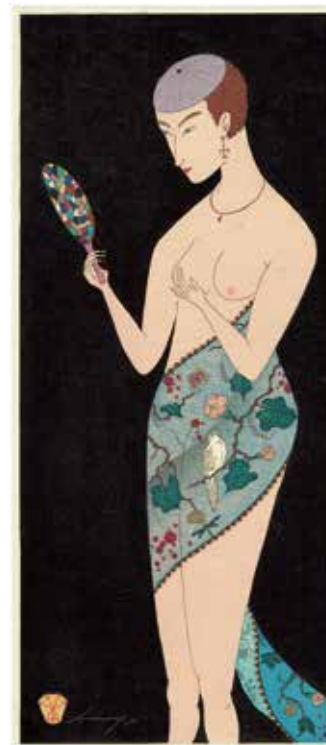


*Murderess getting tattoos*

37.  
KOMURA, Settai [artist]  
“Irezumi no oden” [刺青のお伝]  
Tōkyō; Takamizawa kenkyū-jo. Ca. 1970s. Limited 450.

A fascinating image by a prominent artist Settai Komura (1887-1940). Originally, these were illustrations for the novel ‘Oden Jigoku’ (1934) by Kanji Kunieda (1892-1956), and were printed as large-format woodblock prints by Takamizawa-sha, a company known for its exquisite woodblock printing, which supported the ‘Shinhangha’ movement. The tattooed woman ‘Oden’ is modeled after a real-life murderer known as the ‘poisonous woman of the Meiji era.’

1 sheet print complete. 31.8x44cm (paper size), 27.3x40.5cm (image size), Colour woodblock printing. In fine condition.  
US\$ 1,100 / £ 830



*The revival of colours in Edo ukiyo-e prints, Moern Art-deco*

38.  
TACHIHARA, Inuki [artist & printer]  
“Anthology 1 (Élodienne)”  
[アンソロジー 1 (エロディーヌ)]  
Inuki Tachihara, 1993, signed in pencil.

Inuki Tachihara (1951-2015) researched and reproduced ukiyo-e woodblock prints using the same techniques, pigments, and washi paper as the Edo period, reviving the vibrant colours of freshly printed Edo-era prints. He was also a rare artist who handled all stages of the process, from sketching and carving to printing, by himself. In addition to reproducing Edo-period works, he also focused on creating original works, and in 2019, nine of his reproductions and three of his original works were permanently acquired by the British Museum. This work is unusual among his other works, and is heavily influenced by Western art, such as Georges Barbier.

1 sheet of print complete. 41.7x18.5cm, Colour woodblock printing. In fine condition.

US\$ 3,850 / £ 2,880